GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Finance Department – RA&EO -Establishment of Technical Advisory Group (TAG) of reputed experts on voluntary basis to advise the Government on the analysis, insights & reports of the Data Analytical Unit – orders-issued.

FINANCE (PMU-RA&EO) DEPARTMENT

G.O.RT.No.43 **Dated:22/02/2023**

Read the following:-

1. G.O.Rt.No.1698, Fin (RM&FP) Dept., dated:16/07/2021
2. G.O.MS.No.56, Fin (OP.1) Dept., dated:18/08/2021
3. U.O.Note No.RM0MISC/37/2022 (C 1914593),Fin (PMU-RA&EO), Dept., Dated:12/12/2022
4. Appointment Letters of Domain Experts by APCFSS, dt. 24/12/2022
5. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between GoAP, eGov and CPR.

ORDER:

The Government of Andhra Pradesh vide G.O. 1st read above, have constituted a Committee of Secretaries to be chaired by the Chief Secretary to Government, to propose revenues augmentation and expenditure optimisation measures. In order to support this Committee, vide G.O. 2nd read above, a Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) was established within the Finance Department.

2. During the deliberations of the committee of secretaries, it was observed that Departments are facing hardship in making effective use of the massive volumes of administrative data generated from their digital work-flows systems. Accordingly, vide U.O. Note 3rd read above, a Data Analytics Unit (DAU) was established within the PMU in Finance Department. The objective of the DAU is to make effective use of administrative data to enhance government revenues, improve the quality of expenditure, optimise public spending to realise better outputs and outcomes and achieve greater value for money from public spending.

3. The rigorous analysis of the administrative data by the DAU generate insights for high value administrative actions. The analysis will be based on state of art robust mathematical models based on proven economic theories and leverage full potential of information technology. The analysis and iterative discussions will lead to actionable and relevant decision-support information. It shall function as a shared service available to Departments of the state government on demand. It shall also support individual departments in generating models based on the hypotheses formulated by the Departments and in identifying patterns in the data that point to systematic manipulation and abuse. It was decided that in the first phase, the Data Analytics Unit (DAU) will

work with the revenue-earning departments viz., Commercial Taxes, Stamps and Registration, & Transport to identify decision-support insights that highlight revenue leakages and maximise revenues.

4. Accordingly, a team of data analysts, data scientists, data engineers are being recruited. Domain experts have already been recruited into the DAU vide letters 4th read above. The technical data experts are expected to serve as a shared resource for all Departments,& the domain experts are senior-level experts to be nominated by user Departments for their respective data analytics uses. The latter gives expert advice to the Department concerned by using the data and help in revenue augmentation and expenditure optimization. The capacity-building support for the DAU is being provided by the Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi, and DAU of e-Governments Foundation, Bangalore & the Government of Andhra Pradesh has entered an MoU with the aforementioned organizations in the month of October, 2021 for advisory services on IT and data analytics.

5. The individual data analysts are expected to be proficient in their respective narrow domains of statistics, modelling & programming, however, the application of data analytics to generate high quality actionable & relevant decision-support for Departments requires a comprehensive understanding of data analytics and also development issues and their contexts. Further, unconstrained data mining by purely technical personnel without sufficient overall understanding and proper guidance may not be the most effective means to generate valuable insights.

6. Government, after careful consideration of the matter in it's entirety, have decided to constitute a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) of reputed experts in the field to advise the Government and the DAU on data analytics-related issues, consisting of the following members:

a. Dr. Sekhar Bonu, IAS (Retd), Ex-Director General, DMEO, NITI Aayog
b. Dr. A Santhosh Mathews, IAS (Retd), Country Lead, Public Policy and Finance, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
c. Dr. Devesh Kapur, Starr Foundation Professor of South Asian Studies, Johns Hopkins University
d. Dr. Shoumitro Chatterjee, Assistant Professor, Johns Hopkins University
e. Dr. Nilanjan Sircar, Senior Fellow, Centre for Policy Research
f. Mr. Manish Srivastava, CTO, e-Governments Foundation
g. Dr.Arun K. Tangirala, Professor, IIT Madras.

7. The mandate of the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) is as detailed hereunder;

a. Provide high-level advisory support for the Government on issues related to data analytics to improve public services delivery.

b. Guide the DAU to define its role and strategies to fulfill that role. This will give early direction to the DAU, shape expectations, and lay a foundation for a data-driven culture in the user Departments.
c. Provide guidance to the DAU with rigorous and strong conceptual knowledge and analytical frameworks.
d. Help build high-level data analytics capabilities within the DAU, thereby increasing its effectiveness in providing high-quality decision support to user agencies.
e. Guide the DAU on its individual projects, including its details, as per the time convenience of the members.
f. Help identify the high-value low-hanging problem statements which the DAU can focus on, especially in the early phases.
g. Advise on formulating data and information sharing protocols within not just government departments but also with external agencies, other state governments, and ministries in the Government of India.
h. The committee will be the public face of DAU and will also represent its work in national and international forums.
i. Support in initiating applied research with high practical value using administrative data.
j. Support the Government in documenting and disseminating best practices in data analytics.
k. Peer reviewing the reports generate to ensure high quality
l. Suggesting additional operationally relevant questions for data analysis.

8. The Technical Advisory Group (TAG) shall be guided by the following.
a) The TAG will be a purely voluntary basis.
b) The TAG members, individually or in small groups, will remain engaged with the DAU on its request and as per the member's convenience.
c) The level & Scheduling of engagement by the individual members will depend on their convenience.
d) The TAG meetings & the engagement of the TAG members with the DAU will be predominantly through virtual mediums.
e) The expenses incurred by the TAG members for their physical visits will be borne by the APCFSS initially from its own resources & later reimbursed by the Government.
f) The TAG shall be anchored in the Governance Consulting Divisions of APCFSS.

9. The Secretary (RM&FP) and the CEO, APCFSS shall take further action in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

SHAMSHER SINGH RAWAT
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Members of the Technical Advisory Group,

The Secretary (RM&FP), Finance Department
The CEO, APCFSS

Copy to
All Secretaries in Finance Department.
Finance (OP.I and OP.II) Department

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER